



KEEPING THE TOWN OF HUNTINGTON'S BOATING COMMUNITY "AFLOAT" ON MARINE SAFETY

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PHOTO: Teen artists from Huntington Youth Bureau's Project EXCEL painted a mural depicting downtown Huntington on the rear wall of the Waldbaums Supermarket, which can be seen from the 200 block of New York Avenue in Huntington.



Dear fellow residents,

On behalf of the Town of Huntington, I am pleased to sponsor the **Boating Safety Newsletter**. This newsletter highlights various measures the Town of Huntington has taken to encourage safe boating in our community.

As recreational boating continues to be one of the most popular leisure activities for Long Islanders, safety on the water is paramount. The Town of Huntington has joined forces with local boating organizations and marine law enforcement agencies to educate and train residents in safe boating and navigation laws. The Boating Safety Newsletter outlines these efforts to show what the Town is doing and has done to keep you protected and knowledgeable on the water.

As your Councilman, I will continue to support keeping our waterways safe and enjoyable for all boaters.

Sincerely,

Mark Cuthbertson

MARK CUTHBERTSON
COUNCILMAN



Huntington gets onboard with Coast Guard ID labeling program

The Coast Guard and other marine law enforcement agencies can never assume that a kayak, rowboat or other unregistered vessel that has been found adrift was unoccupied, but locating the owners of an unidentified vessel takes time and money. Every year millions of dollars are spent on search and rescue for occupants of found vessels. Councilman Mark Cuthbertson and the Town of Huntington launched a small vessel identification program in conjunction with the United States Coast Guard's "Operation Paddle Smart" initiative to make identification stickers available to residents.

"Recreationalists who affix an identification label to their small watercraft will make it easier to be located if their unoccupied canoes, kayaks or rowboats are found adrift, preventing what would otherwise be a false search and rescue alarm," stated Councilman Mark Cuthbertson. "In an attempt to avoid such situations, the Town will provide interested small craft owners with labels. It is my hope that other municipalities will follow suit."

Residents can obtain these labels from the Town's Harbor Master's Office, The Greater Huntington Council of Yacht and Boating



The orange I.D. stickers available for canoes, kayaks or rowboats.

Clubs, or the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Division 22 in Eaton's Neck.

The Greater Huntington Council of Yacht and Boating Clubs brought "Operation Paddle Smart" to the attention of the town and was "delighted that Mark and the town grabbed the reins on this very important safety issue," according to the group's Executive Officer and Liaison Jon L. Ten Haagen.

"The Boating Council is very proud of our continued corroboration with the town in keeping our waterways the safest and most beautiful on the north shore of Long Island," Haagen said.

Residents who are interested in this program or have questions can contact the Town of Huntington Harbor Master's Office at (631) 351-3255 or Councilman Mark Cuthbertson's office at (631) 351-3171.

Huntington receives specialized equipment, training to assist victims trapped underwater more quickly

The Town of Huntington received two Rapid Diver Entry Systems, valued at \$3,000 each, as a donation from the Bay Constable Benevolent Association to help speed up the search for and rescue of victims of water accidents.

Huntington Supervisor Frank P. Petrone and Councilman Mark Cuthbertson accepted the donation on behalf of the Town and sponsored the establishment of an Emergency Response Dive Team to use the equipment.

The Rapid Diver equipment is a lightweight, all inclusive scuba system that mates a tank, regulator and buoyancy module to a uniform-fit, load-bearing harness. It can be stored in a small space, put on quickly and worn in situations in which conventional scuba gear is too cumbersome or restrictive. The Rapid Diver

system stores in a pouch and can be ready for use in less than a minute.

“This equipment will be especially useful in situations where quick extrication will save lives,” Supervisor Petrone said. “We thank the Bay Constable Benevolent Association for

donating the equipment and for training Town personnel in how to use it.”

“While we hope that accidents never happen, it is important that the Town has the proper

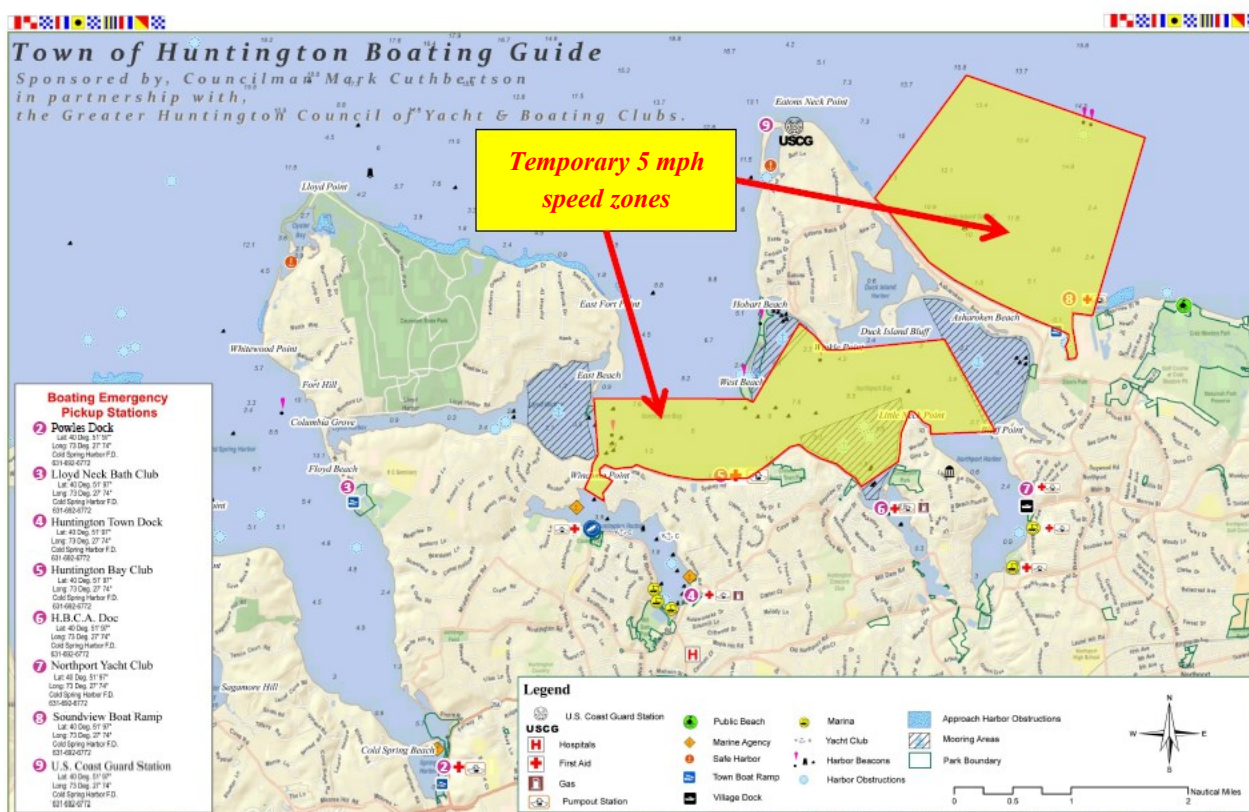
equipment, the proper training and the proper protocols to assist victims trapped underwater quickly and safely,” Councilman Cuthbertson said. “This equipment and the training that goes along with it help us achieve those goals.”

Under the protocols adopted to reflect the addition of the Rapid Diver equipment, the Northport Fire Department, which is the only department in the area with an active dive team and a boat, will be notified immediately to either back up the Emergency Response Dive Team or to take over, using full scuba gear, if lengthier rescue operations are necessary.

“While we hope that accidents never happen, it is important that the Town has the proper equipment, the proper training and the proper protocols to assist victims trapped underwater quickly and safely.”

- Councilman Mark Cuthbertson





Harbormaster sets 5 mph boating speed limit for special events

The Town of Huntington has authorized the Harbor Master's Office to establish 5 mph speed zones for boats during aquatic events, especially when Huntington's waters fill up with local and visiting boaters.

On July 4, 2012 a boat on its way back to Huntington from Oyster Bay Cove capsized, taking the lives of three children who were onboard. The accident became a catalyst for stronger boating regulations in the Town of Huntington, including the temporary speed limit.

The Town also stepped up patrols of the area this Independence Day, working with the Suffolk County Police Department, the U.S. Coast Guard, the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, the Village of Northport harbormaster and police department, the Asharoken police department and the Huntington, Northport and Centerport Fire Departments to keep residents safe on the water and on land.

The Town Board previously authorized the Harbor Master's Office to impose speed limits on the water for specific events, such as the Huntington Lighthouse Preservation Society's Musicfest. The new legislation gives the Senior Harbormaster command to establish and enforce speed limits as he sees fit to protect the welfare and safety of event attendees.

Don't just pack it...

Life jacket Q&A

Q. What is a PFD?

A. It stands for "Personal Flotation Device" which is the modern term for any device designed to keep an individual afloat in open water, including life jackets, life vests, float rings, airplane seat cushions, life belts, etc.

Q. If I inflate my PFD by accident, do I have to replace it with a new one?

A. No. All modern PFDs use small CO2 cartridges to inflate. The gas cartridges are easy and inexpensive to replace. Some jackets and vests come with a spare cartridge.

Q. Does it matter how I store a PFD?

A. Yes. PFDs should be stored in a very accessible place and vessel occupants should know where they are so they can get them at a moment's notice.

Q. Do I need to clean my PFD after using it?

A. Yes. Rinsing your PDF with fresh water will keep it in good condition.

Q. My PFD has mold on it. What should I do?

A. Try using cleaning procedures for removing mold and mildew from fabric. If you can't get it clean or if you can see deterioration of the life jacket's outer covering, then it is time to get a new PFD.

Did you know that you can borrow a life jacket for the day? Thanks to a partnership between Clare Rose and Sea Tow, the Town of Huntington was provided with over 45 life vests through Sea Tow's "Life Jacket Loaner Program." These life jackets are provided free of charge.



All boats are required by law to have a U.S. Coast Guard-approved life jacket for each person on board.

Those who take advantage of the program are asked to return the life jackets at the end of their day.

Mike Langenbach, owner and operator of Sea Tow Huntington, shows Councilman Mark Cuthbertson the life jacket loaner station at the Town's Harbor Masters Office in Halesite.

...Wear your jacket!

Q. Can I get a life jacket for my dog?

A. Yes, there are life jackets made for dogs.

Q. What's wrong with a little mold or mildew on my life jacket?

A. Mold or mildew can deteriorate the material that makes up your PFD's covering, weakening the fabric and compromising its ability to hold your PFD together. This can result in a mechanical failure in your jacket/vest when you need it most.

Q. My life vest has developed a strange and unpleasant smell. What could be causing it?

A. Bad odors are a good indicator that you haven't been properly cleaning or storing your

vest. Look for discolorations, spots and areas where the smell is the strongest. These can all be infested areas. Clean your vest thoroughly and let it dry.

Q. I have had my life jackets since I bought my boat. When will I need new ones?

A. It depends entirely on how they have been cared for and stored.

Q. As a woman, I have not been able to find a life jacket that is comfortable enough to wear for very long. Is there a solution?

A. Yes, many companies sell PFDs designed just for women. Although designed for kayakers, they are appropriate for all boating.



Periodically test your life jacket to make sure it is functioning properly

Put your life jacket on and enter shallow water.

Keep your arms and legs below the water's surface and assume a relaxed position.

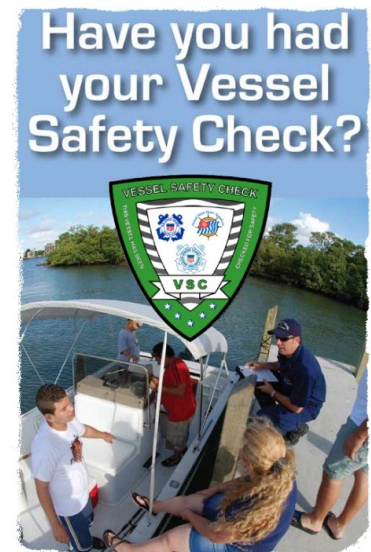
If your life jacket is in good condition, your head and chin will remain above the water.

Free Vessel Examinations by the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary

The United States Coast Guard (USCG) Auxiliary performs complimentary vessel checks and educates boaters about New York's boating rules and regulations, proper selection of life vests, and additional information to keep everyone safe on the water.

The Vessel Safety Check is a complimentary check of your boat conducted by members of the Auxiliary, confirming that it meets both federal and state requirements for safety. No citations are issued and the results of the safety check are not reported to any enforcement agency, but a decal is awarded to display if the vessel has passed the examination. The Vessel Safety Check gives you a risk-free way to check that you meet the legal minimums and to potentially avoid a citation later.

Visit the Coast Guard Auxiliary's website at www.cgaux.org and click on Vessel Safety Checks for more information.



SOME OF THE ITEMS CHECKED INCLUDE: *Personal Flotation Devices • Registration and numbering • Navigation lights • Ventilation • Fire extinguishers • Distress signals (flares, horn, etc.) • Battery cover and connections*

Huntington acquires new patrol boat at no cost to town



The Town of Huntington acquired a 24-foot Justice Boston Whaler marine law enforcement vessel, at no cost to the town, through a New York State Parks and Recreation & Historic Preservation Marine Law Enforcement Program.

The boat is equipped with twin Mercury 200 horsepower outboards, full electronics and a police package. The vessel, "M-2," is valued at \$175,000 and is currently utilized by the Town's Bay Constables to patrol the local harbors and waterways.

Town of Huntington encourages seniors to keep kayaking

Participants of the Town's Senior Center approached Councilman Mark Cuthbertson asking for a place to launch or secure their kayaks during the warm weather months at the Centerport Senior Beach House. A kayak rack was installed in September of 2012, and a second rack was installed due to the success of the program.

"Providing rack space at no cost at the Beach House makes sense and anything we can do to help encourage our residents to continue exercising and living a healthy lifestyle is a worthwhile investment," said Councilman Mark Cuthbertson.

The kayak racks are available from the Friday before Memorial Day through October 31.



Seniors can register in room 109 of the Senior Center. Current boat rack users need to re-register by February 28. To learn more about this kayak rack program or for questions about the many other programs offered through the Town of Huntington's Senior Center, please call 631-351-3253.

Councilman Mark Cuthbertson with members of Huntington's Senior Citizen clubs at the kayak rack in Centerport.

Racks for the storage of small boats are available during the season (Memorial Day Weekend – Oct 31st) at: **Asharoken Beach/Centerport Beach/Crab Meadow Beach/Crescent Beach/Fleet's Cove Beach/Gold Star Battalion Beach/Hobart Beach/West Neck Beach**

Fee: \$100/season rack rental

Registration: Harbormaster's Office, 53 North New York Avenue, Halesite, NY 11743. The office is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Phone: (631) 351-3255. A valid New York State Driver's License and one additional proof of residency (i.e. car registration, boat registration, utility bill) is required.



Suffolk County passed a bill that requires boaters to take a safety course before operating in County waters. According to the legislation, the safety certifications may be administered through such agencies as the United States Power Squadrons, the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary and the New York State Department of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation. Those who violate this law face fines of \$250, \$500 or \$1,000 for first, second or third offences respectively.

The Town of Huntington offers free boating safety courses for Town residents every Spring. For more information and to register, contact the Huntington Harbormaster's Office at (631) 351-3255 or at 53 N. New York Avenue in Halesite.

Boater Safety Courses are also offered by the US Coast Guard Auxiliary and the Huntington Chapter of the Neptune Power Squadron. For a current listing of course offerings and how to register, visit their websites at www.usps.org/Neptune or www.cgaux.org.

Boating Pump-Out Stations

In an effort to protect the quality of its beaches and marine resources, Huntington was the first municipality in the New York marine district to establish a No-Discharge Zone. The greater Huntington/Northport Bay complex is designated as a "NY State Vessel Waste No-Discharge Zone" where the discharge of any sanitary waste product from a vessel is prohibited.

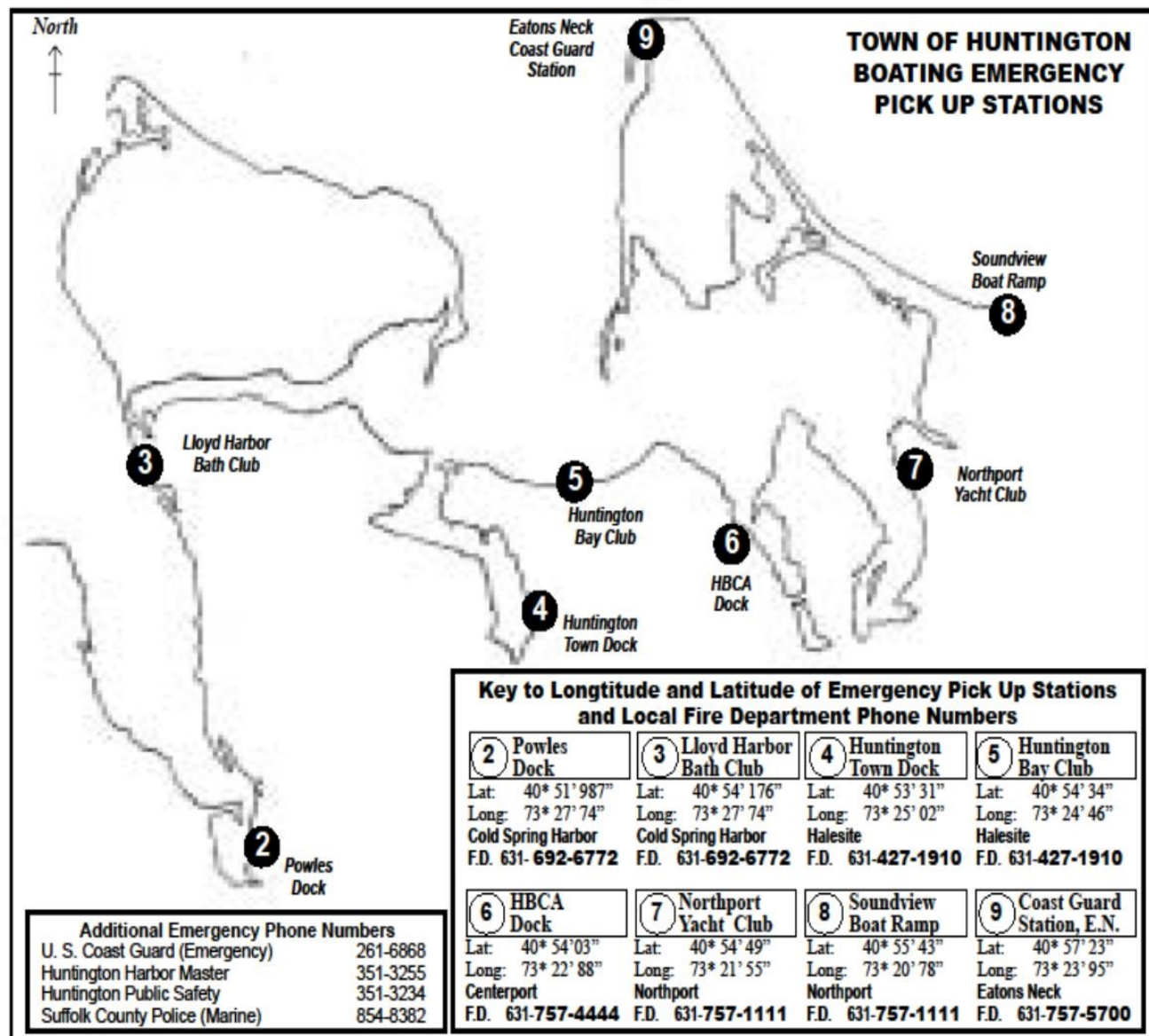
In order to keep local waters clean, Maritime Services maintains six Marine Sanitary Disposal (MSD) vessel pump-out stations throughout the greater Huntington/Northport embayment as well as Cold Spring Harbor during the recreational boating season (April - October). In addition, two mobile pump-out vessels are in operation during the most active summer months. Boaters can contact pump-out vessels on VHF Channel 9 for assistance.

In addition there are privately maintained vessel pump-out stations located in both Huntington and Northport harbors.

A Boating Informational Guide to Vessel Pump-out Facilities is available at the Huntington Harbormaster's Office in Halesite or by calling the Harbormaster at (631) 351-3192.

Cold Spring Harbor
Powles Marine Agency
Huntington Harbor
Gold Star Mooring and Launch Service
Halesite Marina
Huntington Yacht Club
Knutson's West Marine
Mill Dam Marina
South Town Dock
West Shore Marina
Northport Harbor
Brittania Yacht and Raquet Club
Seymour's Boat Yard
Woodbine Marina

Town of Huntington Boating Emergency Pick Up Stations



Councilman Mark Cuthbertson and The Cold Spring Harbor Fire Department Recognize Importance of New Fire Rescue Boat

Councilman Mark Cuthbertson joined Fire Chief Bobby Hahn, of the Cold Spring Harbor Fire Department and his fellow members to commission a reconditioned patrol boat donated by The Town of Huntington.

The Cold Spring Harbor Fire Department retrofitted the donated surplus vessel as a fire-rescue boat spending \$40,000, in contrast to buying a new boat for over \$100,000. The new boat serves the community of Cold Spring Harbor and its need to address water safety issues. Currently, the department has multiple firemen who are licensed to pilot the boat. Additionally, the Cold Spring Harbor Fire Department is in the process of training all firemen in the “Marine Vessel Operator Course,” a 28 hour program which is required for the firemen to pilot the boat.

Councilman Mark Cuthbertson stated, “This retrofitted fire-rescue boat is a win-win for both the Town of Huntington and the Cold Spring Harbor community. This surplus vessel, which was no longer in use, will now provide an extremely important service in time of need, at a much reduced cost to the Cold Spring Harbor fire department. In addition, it will also serve as essential tool that will help them as they hone sharpen their water safety skills within the ranks of volunteer firemen who will pilot this vessel.”

Commenting on their new boat, Chief Bobby Hahn stated, “This fire-rescue boat not only addresses our needs for water safety, but will serve as a recruitment tool to bring more volunteers to our fire department. Cold Spring Harbor is a nautical community and will pique interest for residents who wish to become volunteer firemen.”

Councilman Mark Cuthbertson (right) is pictured with Cold Spring Harbor Fire Department Chief Bobby Hahn in front of the newly refurbished fire rescue boat on the water near Billy Joel Park. Pictured on the boat from right to left is 2nd Assistant Chief Dan Froehlich, John Larounis, Christian Renz, and Captain Justin Armbruster.



Gold Star Battalion Beach Motor Launch Service



The Town of Huntington operates a motor launch service vessel at Gold Star Battalion Beach in Huntington.

Maritime Services operates a seasonal (April to November) motor launch service from Gold Star Battalion Beach on West Shore Road in Huntington.

The application to participate in the launch service program must be completed and submitted to the Harbormaster's Office at the Halesite Marina at 53 North New York Avenue.

Permission to rent moorings in the Puppy Cove area of Huntington Harbor in front of Coindre Hall has been awarded to Coney's Marine by the Village of Lloyd Harbor. For more information call Coney's Marine directly at (631) 421-3366.



Gold Star Battalion Beach Row-out Mooring Service

As an alternative to the Town's motor Launch Service, Maritime Services offers Huntington residents a limited number of seasonal row-out moorings. Registrants get rack space at Gold Star Battalion Beach, West Shore Road, Huntington, NY 11743, for storage of a dingy with which to access their boat mooring. (Please note that those in the Row-Out program are ineligible to use the Gold Star Motor Launch Service.)

Row-Out Mooring Season: Apr 1 - Nov 15

Seasonal Program & Rack Fee: \$200 (Payable to Department of Maritime Services)

Town residents wishing to participate must register with Maritime Services in March. Dingy rack space is awarded on a first come, first serve basis. Applicants must present a valid NYS Driver's License and NYS Boat Registration Card. Please note that space is limited. If row-out rack space is unavailable for the season, you may place your name on a waiting list in case openings occur. For more information, contact the Harbormaster's Office at (631) 351-3192.

Boating laws

Speed Limits:

In the Town of Huntington, the speed limit is 45 mph to the Connecticut State Line except in harbors where boats must use the marked channels. In these “no wake” areas, the speed limit is 5 mph. Incorporated Villages have jurisdiction extending 1,500 feet from their shoreline. In most cases, the Villages have set speed limits of 5 mph within 1500 feet of the shore.

Registration Requirements:

Both Federal and State law require that any pleasure vessel, whether propelled wholly or in part by mechanical means, which is operated on the waters of the state of New York, be registered with the NYS Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) Recreational Transportation Division. Owners of vessels which are documented exclusively for pleasure with the federal government and which operate principally within New York waters must also apply to DMV for a registration certificate and are required to display validation stickers. The following vessels are exempt from state registration requirements: vessels operating commercially with either a US or foreign document; vessels legally registered in another state (up to 90 consecutive days maximum); lifeboats (not including tenders and dinghies); competition race boats; and non-mechanically propelled vessels (sailboats, kayaks, dinghies, etc).

Certificate of Registration:

The registration certificate is your proof of current registration. It may also be your only proof of ownership unless the vessel is titled or documented. Vessel operators must carry the vessel’s original certificate of registration on board at all times. Likewise, the documented vessel must also carry its documentation at all times when the vessel is in use.

and regulations

Correct Display of Number:

The registration number consists of the letters “NY” followed by four numbers and two letters. A space, or a hyphen, the width of a letter, must separate the first and last two letters from the four middle numbers (For example: NY 1234 AB). The numbers must be painted or permanently attached to both sides of the vessel’s bow. It should read from left to right, be of block letters not less than three inches in height, and of a color that contrasts with that of the hull. The registration number should be the only number on the forward half of the vessel and should be clearly visible and readable from at least 100 feet during daylight hours. This number may not be transferred to another vessel.

Validation Stickers:

Two validation stickers will be issued at the time of registration. These stickers will display the month and year of registration expiration. Validation stickers are to be affixed to the hull, in line with, and no further than three inches aft of, the registration number. On vessels documented for pleasure with the US Coast Guard, the validation stickers should be placed approximately in the same location.

Registering a Boat:

Complete DMV form MV-82B (application for registration), have the appropriate registration fee, provide proof of ownership, proof of payment of sales tax (may be paid to Motor Vehicles at time of registration), along with a bill of sale and you’re all set. If this is a new boat, or a vessel being registered for the first time, you will also need to bring the original certificate, or statement, of origin from the manufacturer with you to a DMV office.



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